

elsewhere, he does not relate having consulted any other medium except Mrs. Cramer concerning these particular spiritualistic communications from his wife.

"He remembers things that happened forty years ago, forgetting those that happened yesterday."

Predominant Traits.

"His predominant traits are his belief in the occult, his shrewdness in matters relating to money, his ability to make a dollar and keep it when 'mediums' do not interfere—and his aversion to tobacco and whisky. He is very positive in his denunciation of the tobacco habit and points to his eighty-nine years as being in a measure due to his abstinence."

"He took up spiritualism more than forty years ago. He visited a girl clairvoyant at Fort Henry, New York, where he was born. She told him some things which he was unable to explain, and he began to talk spiritualism. He has kept it up ever since. We never suspected, however, that his faith in the occult was so deep as to cost him \$30,000."

"His fortune was made in iron mines. Early in life he purchased mining property near Fort Henry. Not long after the civil war he was ready to retire. Since that time he has enjoyed life, dividing his time between his home in Springfield, Washington, a little town in Minnesota. He remained at the springs the greater portion of the time, until he became infatuated with Washington as an ideal city in which to live. Soon after he met Mrs. Cramer, and the spiritualistic seances of his own mind."

Unable to Explain.

"In his present state of mind my grandfather is unable to explain why he neglected to verify these messages from his wife by obtaining spiritualistic communication through another medium. I say, however, that Mrs. Cramer's long kindness to him was such as to remove all doubt of any spirit message she might receive for him."

"It is absolutely beyond us how a man of his business sagacity would issue drafts calling for thousands of dollars upon words from a 'medium.' Only a few years ago my grandfather was a money lender. He dealt in mortgages on Minnesota lands. Some of the people who will tell you, as has been printed in the St. Charles papers, that he was a lender in these matters, but he has never been helping to pay back. He was liberal in these matters, but he will not in throwing away his money without a chance of adequate return."

"This makes his credulity to the dictates of the 'medium' all the more remarkable."

Dr. Hurd, who is named conservator, is a New York physician, residing in Greenwich. He helps to the octogenarian's fortune and his wife, Dr. Hurd, the latter owning a farm in Connecticut.

Strange As Occult Tale.

Strange as any occult tale ever penned and as mysterious as the stories of the ancient secret rites and spiritualistic communications, they have come down to us from the East according to the charges made by Dr. Hurd, must have been those evening 'seances,' held in the modest flat in the De Soto apartment house, where Mrs. Laura R. Cramer is said to have lived and was wont to summon back to earth the mind and spirit of her husband, Dr. Hurd, dead these many years.

Reading the allegations filed by Dr. Lee Hurd, it is easy to imagine the scenes which, it is charged, frequently transpired in the evenings, when Mrs. Cramer had returned from her day's work, and old Dr. Hurd, weary after his lonely wanderings through the parks and streets of the city, but mentally alert and with thoughts and memories turning to the companion of his early years, would beg that his friend secure him some word of greeting from his wife.

If the charges filed by Dr. Hurd to the effect that Mrs. Cramer obtained \$30,000 from Hurd are true, the case constitutes one of the most remarkable examples of the influence of a belief in occult and unseen forces ever brought before the courts.

The case is the more peculiar when the methodical and systematic lines along which Mr. Hurd's early life were mapped out, became known. As early as 1869 this man had cultivated a habit of economy, which in these times would be regarded as almost miserly. In the Hurd case, it is even known that in some of his idle moments his extremely economical tendencies led him to estimate how much his daily sustenance cost those with whom he boarded, and that when he figured this amount out as 13 cents, his spirit was disturbed because it seemed to him that his landlady was making an unusual profit.

Gave Away Thousands.

And yet, it is charged that this same man, who counted his 5-cent purchases as jealously as if they had each represented a small fortune, and whose life was regulated by habits the most methodical and systematic, hesitated not to issue drafts represented by four and sometimes five figures, when he was under the magic spell of Mrs. Cramer's influence.

The most startling example of the lengths to which, it is charged, the old man yielded to this 'black magic,' occurred last May, according to the allegations of Dr. Hurd, when Mrs. Cramer is declared to have cashed a draft of \$100,000. Dr. Hurd also cites a number of other drafts of large amounts, which, when cashed by the cashier of the bank, were seized by him after one of Mrs. Cramer's successful seances, issued drafts to this woman with supposed 'mediumistic' powers.

The hold which spiritualism has had on old Dr. Hurd may be seen from the influence of his wife—the woman from whom his loyalty and devotion have never swerved. She, too, had more or less faith in those unseen forces, which to believers in the occult are more real than any objects of the tangible world. With her power to lead to that world of the unseen and unknown, its hold upon her husband strengthened.

Hoped to Hear From Dead Wife.

Little by little the hope that the spirit might break the bonds of the grave, and pierce the silence, which has never yet been broken, grew into a belief, and this belief became a fixed idea. Mr. Hurd's scrap book, which he has kept for a number of years, is a most interesting document. Pasted over the pages whereon he has recorded his trivial expenditures are various articles dealing with the death of his wife, and with so-called spiritual events.

Occupying a conspicuous place among the first pages of the volume is an other world interview with the late Robert G. Ingersoll, alleged to have been obtained by a medium named Miss Richmond, of Chicago. In this interview will be recognized many of the theories of life and the hereafter, advanced by Ingersoll, when he was in the flesh.

The contents of this scrap book show the trend of Mr. Hurd's mind during his declining years. Mrs. Cramer, therefore, charges Dr. Hurd, was quick to seize upon this weakness, and to convert it into so much gold. The thrilling 'seances,' it is charged, began to take place when the spirit of Mrs. Cramer would profess to receive from the spirit of 'Mary,' Mr. Hurd's wife, messages of warning and advice to the latter's husband.

Mr. Hurd, having implicit confidence in the judgment of Mrs. Cramer, and believing in the science of the occult, continued Dr. Hurd's charges, was easily persuaded, therefore, to heed those messages from his wife which advised the payment of large sums to Mrs. Cramer. Many of these communications, it is alleged, had much to do with the subject of money.

He Begun to Doubt.

It was not until Mr. Hurd went again to his relatives at Greenwich, Conn., that he is said to have become convinced that the messages delivered to him by Mrs. Cramer may not have been secured by her in good faith. The observations of those who do not believe in occultism were sufficient to finally bring the elderly Mr. Hurd to the conclusion that the dissipation of more than \$30,000 of his property was unjustified.

Still He Believes.

The old man, however, still holds somewhat to his faith in the possibility of spiritualistic communication. In Washington and elsewhere, during Mrs. Hurd's lifetime, both she and her husband attended seances together, and, after her death in 1901, Mr. Hurd's first thoughts were that he might keep his communication with his wife through means of this spiritualism in which she believed.

A few years after Mrs. Hurd's death he became a member of a spiritualistic committee formed to devise and report upon a plan to promote the speedy enactment of laws for the District of Columbia from time to time.

The question presented for consideration is one of large concern to the District, and it is hoped that you will be able to serve upon the committee."

As chairman of the committee on law and legislation, Mr. Sinclair, of the Chamber of Commerce, of which you are a member, I have taken the liberty of appointing you a member of a subcommittee formed to devise and report upon a plan to promote the speedy enactment of laws for the District of Columbia from time to time.

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COMMITTEE TO URGE GREATER ACTIVITY

Chamber of Commerce Names Men to Work for District Legislation.

Following upon the protest of Washington citizens against Congress' dilatory methods in handling District legislation, the Washington Chamber of Commerce has decided to give its attention to the matter, and, if possible, recommend a plan whereby speedier legislation may be secured.

This was announced today by William F. Gude, president of the chamber, and a Leftwich Sinclair, chairman of the law and legislation committee of that body.

Mr. Gude declared that he considered the problem one of such vital interests that the effort to solve it doubtless would resolve itself into the principal work to be done by the Chamber this summer and fall.

In announcing that the Chamber would take up the question, Mr. Sinclair this morning appointed a special committee of the law and legislation committee to consider it.

Oyster Heads Committee. Capt. James F. Oyster was made chairman of the special committee, and the other members included Percival M. Brown, William T. Gallier, Walter B. Guy, Robert N. Harper, George H. Judd, Ralph W. Lee, Thomas C. Noyes, Paul C. Patterson, Jackson H. Reister, Arthur E. Randle, Joseph Richardson, Alonzo Tweeddale, George W. White, and J. Louis Willard.

Mr. Sinclair's letter to the members of the committee announcing that they had been selected to serve upon it was as follows:

"As chairman of the committee on law and legislation, Mr. Sinclair, of the Chamber of Commerce, of which you are a member, I have taken the liberty of appointing you a member of a subcommittee formed to devise and report upon a plan to promote the speedy enactment of laws for the District of Columbia from time to time."

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GERMAN IRON BROOM SWEEPS THE CABINET

Five Officers Are Displaced by the Chancellor Within Month.

BERLIN, June 28.—Germany today is in the midst of a political upheaval that has not been rivaled since Prince Bismarck was dismissed from office. Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg has revealed himself an unexpectedly strong politician, backing Kaiser Wilhelm in one of the most broadest cleanings up of state offices that has marked the rule of Wilhelm the Unexpected.

The Kaiser's first has given place to the Kaiser's second, and a clean sweep has been made. The latest dismissal was that of Baron von Rheinbaben, Prussian minister of state and finance.

His "resignation" was nothing more than a curt note of dismissal, said to have been worded as abruptly as an employer might have used in discharging an inefficient office boy.

The other ministers who have thus summarily been removed from office by the Kaiser are Von Moltke, Armin von Schoen, and other changes in high places in the government are admitted in court circles to be imminent.

Using An Iron Broom. The Kaiser, at Bethmann-Hollweg's instigation, is sweeping offices clear with what German papers term the "iron broom."

Inefficient cabinet officers are being ruthlessly dismissed. Intense excitement prevails in political circles for from the unexpectedness of the Kaiser's coup it is evident that no dismissals are certain and no one knows who the next will be.

Five cabinet officers have been replaced within the past month and with the exception of Minister Dethlefsen whose resignation was entirely voluntary, the other "resignations" were simply unceremonious dismissals.

A Clever Coup. In political circles it is admitted that the dismissal of Rheinbaben was a clever coup for Bethmann-Hollweg, as Rheinbaben was regarded as being the most likely successor of Bethmann-Hollweg for the chancellorship.

Herr von Schoen, who was dismissed from the foreign office, will be sent as minister to France, succeeding Minister Radolofsky.

In the midst of this political crisis which has brought about the Kaiser is today calling his American built yacht, the Meteor, against the American yacht Westward and others.

DAUGHTER IS BORN. CHESTER, England, June 28.—The Duchess of Westminster, the daughter of Mrs. Cornwallis West, gave birth to a daughter today. Mother and child are doing well.

AUTO VICTIM BETTER, PRESIDENT PLEASED

Taft Sends Message of Sympathy to Injured Italian Laborer.

President Taft was greatly relieved today when he received a telegram from his cousin, Samuel Carr, of Boston, that Michael Thisthwaite, the Italian laborer run down yesterday, the President's son, would recover from his injuries.

Mr. Taft was informed in the telegram that the two physicians, James Marsh Jackson and Samuel J. Mixer, who made a thorough examination of the Italian of the accident yesterday, felt confident that he would get well.

Mr. Taft was especially pleased because of his knowledge of the high standing of the two doctors who made the examination, and he wired Mr. Carr to see to it that they continue their attendance on Thisthwaite.

Italian Is Recovering. BEVERLY, Mass., June 28.—Under the inspiring message of sympathy from President Taft and the care of the best surgeons in Boston whom the President could engage, Michael Thisthwaite, the Italian laborer run down and seriously injured by the automobile driven by Robert Taft, is today rapidly recovering.

The President sent another message today to Thisthwaite, expressing hope for his speedy recovery.

Mr. Taft and his daughter Helen, came into town today while Robert Taft and a few friends motored to the Essex county golf course.

Little Charlie spent the day putting the finishing touches to his story, the Bandit, which is almost ready for launching.

EDUCATOR HURT BY AUTO IS DEAD. BOSTON, June 28.—Robert E. Burke, assistant superintendent of the Boston schools, died shortly after midnight as a result of injuries received in an automobile accident a week ago Sunday.

SURF VICTIM SAVED. ATLANTIC CITY, June 28.—Caught in the strong undertow and heavy surf just off Virginia avenue this morning, Charles Brennan, twenty years old, of Philadelphia, came within an ace of being the season's first bathing victim.

Quick and daring work on the part of Guards Hall and Davis and two hours of strenuous work by Beach Surgeon Keithwick and Captain Berke saved his life.

TAKE FIRST STEPS FOR POSTAL BANKS

Trustees Meet This Afternoon to Arrange to Establish System.

The first steps toward the organization of the new postal savings bank system will be taken this afternoon, when the trustees will meet in the office of Postmaster General Hitchcock to arrange for the establishment of the system.

The trustees under the law are the Postmaster General, the Attorney General, and the Secretary of the Treasury. They have full power to perfect the details. Only the questions of interest to be paid depositors, the interest to be received and the disposition of the funds are fixed by statute.

It was said at the office of the Postmaster General today that the meeting this afternoon was for the purpose of adopting regulations which shall govern the new business.

Thoroughly departmental officers have been directed to begin the preparation of such blank forms and instructions as will be needed. To aid this committee the postal administrations of foreign countries that have postal savings banks have been requested to furnish sample forms and copies of regulations.

Clerks and under officials in the Postoffice Department are much interested in the new activity put upon the department by the last Congress. It means a vast amount of additional work, people must be hired to do it.

At this time when so many department clerks are being weeded out because of lack of work, it is expected that many of the more efficient clerks will be retained and transferred to the postal savings department.

FIRE ENGINE TEAM IN SPIRITED DASH. Runaway Through Busy Streets.

NEW YORK, June 28.—Three big gray fire engine horses, plunging along abreast with as much precision as if they had been hitched to their engine, ran away for two miles through Brooklyn today, and were only stopped when they reached the plaza of the Williamsburg bridge.

The horses were not frightened. They had been hitched to a fire and were simply running as to a fire and their keeping together, the firemen say, showed their training.

At the bridge a policeman seized the bridle of one of the horses, and, although dragged a block, succeeded in stopping him.



NORTH COAST AND MAINE RESORTS

MAKE your own choice. There is a rugged coast line dotted here and there with sandy beaches.

You may revel in sparkling sunshine or sport amid the breakers. There is pleasure galore for everybody and plenty of crisp salt sea air. Or, there are inland lakes, forests of fir, hidden trails and nooks to be explored.

You can canoe or bathe—ride or drive—play golf and tennis, or just loaf about the lavishly equipped hotels. You will find plenty of interesting people and just the comfort and social life that you desire.

Service effective on and after June twenty

The Famous Bar Harbor Express will depart from Grand Central Terminal, New York City, 8:00 P. M., except Sunday, offering excellent through train service between New York and Bar Harbor, Maine, and all intermediate points.

New Through Vestibule Train (Pullman and Dining Cars) New York, Portland and Waterville will depart from Grand Central Terminal, N. Y. City at 9:00 A. M. Daily except Sunday, connecting with principal North Coast and Maine Resorts.

For full information, tickets, literature and line folders, call, write or phone

CITY TICKET OFFICE 171 Broadway New York City Telephone, 5121 Cortland

Boston and Maine Railroad Central Railroad of Maine

Capital Collection of Easy Secular Songs (With Simple Accompaniment) Regular Price, 50 cents. FOR ONE WEEK ONLY 29c (Present this Coupon.) E. F. Droop & Sons Co. 1300 G STREET.

Khaki Shirts, 50c and \$1.00 Meyer's Military Shop 1231 Pa. Ave. N. W.

BEST FUEL from Every Standpoint Coke is the choice of many housewives for cooking because it is best as well as cheapest. You can use Coke with profit. We'll supply you.

25 Bushels Large Coke, delivered... \$12.50 40 Bushels Large Coke, delivered... \$12.50 60 Bushels Large Coke, delivered... \$12.50 25 Bushels Crushed Coke, delivered... \$12.50 40 Bushels Crushed Coke, delivered... \$12.50 60 Bushels Crushed Coke, delivered... \$12.50 Washington Gas Light Co.

"BLACK RAVEN" SHOES FOR MEN \$2.50 "Save You A Dollar" Wm. Hahn & Co.'s Three Reliable Shoe Houses Cor. 7th and K Sts. 223 Pa. Ave. N. W.

Porch Furniture Rocker or Straight Back Chair... 79c R. E. BURKS Furniture and Floor Coverings 729-731 7th Street

SPECIAL \$3 and \$4 Glasses... \$1 FITTING FREE SANS OPTICAL CO., 708 7th St. N. W. Formerly 625 7th St. N. W.

White Cross —MILK— The Standard of Purity —Direct from our plant at Frederick, Md. in refrigerator cars— to a bottle. Baltimore and Washington WHITE CROSS MILK CO. Ninth and N Sts. N. W. F. R. Horner, Mgr., Phone N 4114-1115

NEIGHBORS' CONSENT MUST BE OBTAINED

In order that piano music may accompany a moving picture show, the consent of the householders in the block and on the adjoining block or blocks must be obtained, according to an opinion submitted to the Commissioners by Corporation Counsel Thomas today.

The question was raised by the application by Capt. G. H. Williams of the Fifth precinct for a warrant for the arrest of the proprietor of a 5-cent theater, who it was